

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 04249 301025Z
ACTION NODS-00

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S E C R E T MOSCOW 4249

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MNUC, PFOR
SUBJ: PRESIDENTIAL NUCLEAR POLICY STATEMENT

REF: STATE 067973

1. SUMMARY. AFTER SECRETARY DISCUSSED MATTER WITH GROMYKO MARCH 28 AND 29, POL COUNS DELIVERED NON-PAPER CONTAINED IN REFTEL TO MOROKHOV AND ISRAELYAN MARCH 29. BOTH REACTED CAUTIOUSLY WITHOUT MAKING COMMITMENT ON SPECIFICS. THEY EACH POINTED OUT POSSIBLE PROBLEM AREAS AND NOTED THE NEED FOR MORE DETAILS ABOUT U.S. APPROACH. MOROKHOV DID NOT SEE MUCH CHANCE FOR INTIAL REACTIONS BY APRIL 1. END SUMMARY.

2. PHP COUNS DELIVERED COPIES OF REFTEL NON-PAPER TEXT TO I.D. MOROKHOV, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF STATE COMMITTEE FOR ATOMIC ENERGY AND V.L. ISRAELYAN, CHIEF OF MFA INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DIVISION. AFTER LISTENING TO TRANSLATION, MOROKHOV SAID THAT U.S. NON-PAPER WOULD HAVE TO BE CAREFULLY STUDIED BEFORE ANY OFFICIAL REACTION COULD BE GIVEN. HOWEVER, INITIALLY AND INFORMALLY HE WOULD SAY THAT IT APPEARED TO HIM TO BE AIMED AT FURTHER LIMITATION OF PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, AND THIS WAS, OF COURSE,
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SOMETHING THE SOVIET UNION FAVORED. HE HOPED THE U.S. IDEAS WOULD BE ADDRESSED IN LONDON BECAUSE IN HIS OPINION THE NON-PAPER WAS ONLY A GENERAL SCHEME WHICH DESERVED TO BE DEVELOPED AND DISCUSSED IN DETAIL. MOROKHOV WAS NOT SANGUINE ABOUT THE PROSPECTS FOR SOVIET REACTIONS BY APRCT 1, SINCE THE SUBJECT WAS SO COMPLEX AND THE TIME SO SHORT. HOWEVER HE WOULD TRY.

3. MOROKHOV ALSO NOTED THAT THE U.S. DOCUMENT DID NOT MENTION COMPLETE CONTROL OVER ALL SUPPLY AND THEREFORE HE WIDHED TO "POSE THE QUESTION," OF WHETHER THE U.S. IS IN FAVOR OF CONTROL OF HIGHLY SENSITIVE MATERIALS AND THE FACILITIES FOR PRODUCING SUCH MATERIALS. HE STATED THAT THE SOVIET UNION IS IN FAVOR OF THIS AND WENT ON TO URGE THAT THE IAEA AND ITS BOARD OF GOVERNORS BE STRENGTHENED AND THAT THE ROLE IN THE IAEA AND PRESENCE ON THE BOARD OF THE DEPOSITORY STATES NOT BE REDUCED BUT INCREASED.

4. MFA'S ISRAELYAN COMMENTED CAUTIOUSLY THAT PARAS (E) AND (F) CONCERNING THE INTERNATIONAL ASPECTS OF THE ISSUE, SEEMED TO BE GENERALLY IN LINE WITH SOVIET POLICY, BUT HE WOULD LIKE TO STUDY THE TEXT MORE CLOSELY BEFORE COMMENTING IN DEPTH. HE SAID HE WOULD TRY TO GET BACK TO US BY APRIL 1.

5. WITH ISRAELYAN WAS HIS DEPUTY, COUNSELOR G.S. STASHEVSKIY, WHO RAISED A QUESTION ABOUT THE SIGNIFICANCE OF "AN INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR FUEL-CYCLE EVALUATION PROGRAM" (PARA E). POL COUNS REPLIED THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN IN DISCUSSING THE SUBJECT WITH MOROKHOV ON MARCH 28 REFERRED TO POSSIBILITY OF AN EFFORT TO INVOLVE FUEL IMPORTERS IN DISCUSSIONS WHICH UP UNTIL NOW HAD BEEN RESTRICTED TO THE LONDON SUPPLIERS CLUB. ISRAELYAN RESPONDED THAT LIKE MOROKHOV HE WOULD BE CONCERNED ABOUT ANY SUGGESTION WHICH WOULD WEAKEN THE LONDON CLUB (VIA DISCUSSIONS AND DISPUTES BETWEEN SUPPLIERS AND IMPORTERS)

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OR CHANGE ITS PURPOSE. HOWEVER, HE DID SEE THE POSSIBILITY OF CONSIDERING A STUDY GROUP OF SOME KIND, ALTHOUGH THAT WOULD HAVE TO BE LOOKED INTO CAREFULLY ALSO.

6. COMMENT: BOTH MOROKHOV AND ISRAELYAN WERE CAUTIOUS BUT MADE AN EFFORT TO STRESS THE POSITIVE IN THEIR INITIAL, PERSONAL REACTIONS, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME POINTING OUT QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS ABOUT SOME OF THE POINTS IN THE NON-PAPER. MOROKHOV SEEMED MORE RELUCTANT TO PROMISE INITIAL OFFICIAL COMMENTS SOON, AS MUCH BECAUSE OF QUESTIONS OF DETAIL AS BECAUSE OF ANY UNEXPRESSED DOUBTS ABOUT THE GENERAL THRUST OF THE PAPER. HOWEVER, GIVEN THE SOVIET COMMITMENT TO DEVELOP BREEDER REACTORS DESPITE THE PLUTONIUM RE-PROCESSING AND RECYCLING PROBLEMS (SEPTTEL), WE DO NOT THINK THE SOVIETS ARE LIKELY TO REACT VERY POSITIVELY TO A PAPER WHICH TAKES JUST THE OPPOSITE TACK.
TOON

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